

Substitute the following claims for the prior claims appearing in the instant application:

Claims 1-40 (canceled)

41.(original) A system comprising:

- a manufacturing machine;
- a receiver;
- an electrical control system connected to the receiver and the machine;

- a product having multiple sheets and a data storage device located between the sheets, the product being manufactured by the machine;

- the receiver operably interfacing with the data storage device to ascertain data previously stored on the device, the control system changing manufacturing characteristics of the machine based on a data received from the device.

42.(original) The system of claim 41 wherein the data is ascertained by the receiver from the device prior to manufacturing of the product containing the device by the machine.

43.(original) The system of claim 41 wherein the machine includes a mold operable to three-dimensionally shape the product.

44.(original) The system of claim 41 wherein the machine includes a heater operable to heat the product to ease in forming.

45.(original) The system of claim 41 wherein the machine includes a sheet extruder for making the product prior to attachment of the data storage device.

46.(original) The system of claim 41 wherein the data storage

device is a radio frequency identification tag.

47.(original) The system of claim 46 wherein the receiver is an interrogator operable communicating with the radio frequency identification tag.

48.(original) The system of claim 41 wherein the machine three-dimensionally shapes the product which subsequently becomes a pallet.

49.(original) The system of claim 41 wherein the data storage device includes an antenna located entirely inside of the product when in its final manufactured condition.

Claims 50-68 (canceled)

69.(original)A method of manufacturing a product with machinery, and method comprising:

- (a) electrically communicating between the product and the machinery in a wireless manner;

- (b) changing an operational characteristic of the machinery prior to processing the product in the machinery, based on the communication of step (a); and

- (c) shaping the product with the machinery after step (b).

70.(original)The method of claim 69 wherein the product is a multiple sheet pallet, wherein the sheets are made of a polymeric material.

71.(original)The method of claim 69 further comprising communicating between the product and the machinery by transmitting radio frequencies to identify preprogrammed characteristics of the desired end product to be manufactured.

Claims 72-74 (Canceled)

75. (new) An apparatus comprising:

a pallet having a first RFID tag and a second RFID tag,
said first RFID tag including externally readable data
indicative of a first characteristic, and

said second RFID tag including externally readable data
indicative of a second characteristic.

76. (new) An apparatus as set forth in claim 75 in which:

said first RFID tag externally readable data includes non-
erasable data.

77. (new) An apparatus as set forth in claim 76 in which:

said non-erasable data is indicative of a characteristic
that is selected from the group consisting of manufacture date,
serial number, load bearing strength specification, operating
temperature, material composition, repair instruction, expiration
date, recycling instructions, pallet ownership, and ISO
certificate.

78. (new) An apparatus as set forth in claim 75 in which:

said first RFID tag externally readable data is permanently
stored in non-volatile tag memory.

79. (new) An apparatus as set forth in claim 75 in which:

said first RFID tag includes a passive tag.

80. (new) An apparatus as set forth in claim 75 in which:

said second RFID tag externally readable data includes data
indicative of the location of the pallet.

81. (new)An apparatus as set forth in claim 80 in which:

said data indicative of the location of the pallet includes data that is selected from the group consisting of an electronic manifest, a time record, a shipping address, and a bill accounting for the use of said pallet.

82. (new)An apparatus as set forth in claim 75 in which:

said second RFID tag externally readable data includes data indicative of the external environment of the pallet.

83. (new)An apparatus as set forth in claim 75 in which:

said second RFID tag externally readable data includes data indicative of a characteristic of a part transported by the pallet.

84. (new)An apparatus as set forth in claim 75 in which:

said second RFID tag includes a passive tag.

85. (new)An apparatus as set forth in claim 75 in which:

said second RFID tag includes an active tag.

86. (new)An apparatus as set forth in claim 75 in which:

said pallet includes a third RFID tag including externally readable data indicative of a third characteristic.

87. An apparatus as set forth in claim 86 in which:

said pallet includes a fourth RFID tag including externally readable data indicative of a fourth characteristic.

88. (new)An apparatus as set forth in claim 75 which includes:

said first RFID tag being operable in a first RF environment,

said second RFID tag being operable in a second RF environment, and

wherein said first RF environment is incompatible with said second RF environment so that said pallet is interoperable between two incompatible RF environments.

89. (new)An apparatus as set forth in claim 75 which includes:

said first RFID tag operates on a first RF frequency,

said second RFID tag operates on a second RF frequency, and

wherein said pallet is interoperable between two RF frequencies.

90. (new)An apparatus as set forth in claim 75 which includes:

said first RFID tag operating in a first proprietary operating environment,

said second RFID tag operating in a second proprietary operating environment, and

wherein said first proprietary operating environment is incompatible with said second proprietary operating environment so that said pallet is interoperable between two incompatible proprietary operating environments.

91. (new)A material handling device comprising:

a first polymeric member,

a second polymeric member attached to said first polymeric member,

a first externally readable RFID tag positioned between said first member and said second member,

said first tag including information indicative of a first characteristic,

a second externally readable RFID tag positioned between said first member and said second member, and

said second tag including information indicative of a second characteristic.

92. (new)A material handling device as set forth in claim 91 which includes:

said first RFID tag being operable in a first RF environment,

said second RFID tag being operable in a second RF environment,

said first RF environment being incompatible with said second RF environment,

said material handling device being interoperable between two incompatible RF environments.

93. (new)A material handling device as set forth in claim 91 in which:

said first RFID tag operates at a first RF frequency, and

said second RFID tag operates at a second RF frequency.

94. (new)A material handling device as set forth in claim 91 in which:

said first RFID tag operates in a first proprietary operating environment, and

said second RFID tag operates in a second proprietary operating environment.

95. (new)A material handling device as set forth in claim 94 which includes:

said first proprietary operating environment being incompatible with said second proprietary operating environment so that the material handling device is interoperable between two

operating environments.

96. (new)A material handling device as set forth in claim 91 in which:

said first RFID tag information includes non-erasable information indicative of the material handling device.

97. (new)A material handling device as set forth in claim 96 in which:

said first RFID tag information includes information that is selected from the group consisting of manufacturing date, serial number, part number, material handling device specifications, material handling device material composition, ownership records, and ISO certificates.

98. (new)A material handling device as set forth in claim 91 in which:

said first RFID tag includes a passive tag.

99. (new)A material handling device as set forth in claim 91 in which:

said second RFID tag information includes information indicative of the location of the material handling device.

100. (new)A material handling device as set forth in claim 99 in which:

said second RFID tag information includes information that is selected from the group consisting of an electronic manifest, a time record, a shipping address, and a bill for accounting for the use of the material handling device.

101. (new)A material handling device as set forth in claim 91 in which:

said second RFID tag includes information indicative of the external environment of the material handling device.

102. (new)A material handling device as set forth in claim 91 which includes:

a third externally readable RFID tag positioned between said first member and said second member, and

said third tag including information indicative of a third characteristic.

103. (new)A material handling device as set forth in claim 102 which includes:

a fourth externally readable RFID tag positioned between said first member and said second member, and

said fourth tag including information indicative of a fourth characteristic.

104. (new)A material handling apparatus comprising:

a first externally readable RFID tag,

a second externally readable RFID tag,

said first RFID tag includes non-erasable information pertaining to the material handling apparatus, and

said second RFID tag includes rewritable information pertaining to events associated with the use of the apparatus.

105. (new)A material handling apparatus as set forth in claim 104 in which:

said first RFID tag information includes information intended for use by a material handling apparatus manufacturer,

and

said second RFID tag information includes information intended for use by a material handling apparatus user.

106. (new)A material handling apparatus as set forth in claim 105 which includes:

said first RFID tag information being information that is permanently stored in memory before the apparatus enters a material handling workplace.

107. (new)A material handling apparatus as set forth in claim 104 which includes:

a third externally readable RFID tag including information,
a fourth externally readable RFID tag including information,
and

said third RFID tag information and said fourth RFID tag information being indicative of characteristics useful to addition material handling apparatus users.

108. (new)A material handling apparatus as set forth in claim 104 which includes:

said second RFID tag information being stored in volatile memory.

109. (new)A method for using a material handling apparatus having an RFID tag comprising the steps of:

(a) moving the material handling apparatus into an interrogation field by means of a carrier,

(b) reading information stored in a memory component of the RFID tag after the moving step, and

(c) activating an indicator after the reading step to

instruct an operator of the carrier to move the material handling apparatus out of the interrogation field.

110. (new)A method as set forth in claim 109 which includes:

visually locating the indicator adjacent to the interrogation field, and

using visible light to activate the indicator.

111. (new)A method as set forth in claim 110 which includes:

providing an indicator having a light that is visible to the carrier operator.

112. (new)A method as set forth in claim 109 which includes:

providing an indicator that is located on the carrier.

113. (new)A method as set forth in claim 112 which includes:

positioning the indicator on the carrier so that the indicator is visible to the operator of the carrier.

114. (new)A method as set forth in claim 109 in which the RFID tag includes information which includes:

providing the RFID tag with information stored in a memory component and at least part of the information including instructions for the carrier operator where to position the material handling apparatus within a distribution network after exiting the interrogation field.

115. (new)A method as set forth in claim 114 which includes:

positioning the indicator on the carrier so that the indicator provides the position within a warehouse to move the material handling apparatus.

116. (new) A method for using a material handling apparatus comprising the steps of:

(a) affixing an RFID tag to the apparatus so that the RFID tag transmits information pertaining to the apparatus,

(b) providing a plurality of interrogators capable of receiving information from the RFID tag within a plurality of interrogation fields located within a distribution network,

(c) providing a plurality of local area computers so that each computer is located within an interrogation field and is connected to a host computer,

(d) providing a plurality of visual message delivery devices within the interrogation fields so that each visual message delivery device is connected to at least one of the local area computers and to the host computer,

(e) providing a carrier to move the apparatus within the distribution network,

(f) providing an operator to maneuver the carrier within the distribution network and to observe the devices,

(g) using the carrier to move the apparatus into one of the interrogation fields to allow one of the interrogators to convey the information pertaining to the apparatus contained on the RFID tag to at least one of the local area computers and the host computer, and

(h) thereafter one of the local area computers and the host computer activates the device in the interrogation field observed by the operator to instruct the operator to maneuver the carrier and the apparatus out of one of the interrogation fields.

117. (new)A method as set forth in claim 116 which includes:

providing one of the visual message delivery devices with a light that is visible to the operator.

118. (new)A method as set forth in claim 116 which includes:

positioning one of the devices within the interrogation field adjacent to at least one of the interrogators.

119. (new)A method as set forth in claim 116 which includes:

providing one of the visual message delivery devices having the ability to instruct the operator to remain within the interrogation field allowing at least one of the interrogators to receive complete information pertaining to the apparatus.

120. (new)A method as set forth in claim 116 which includes:

providing an interrogation field having a triggering device that senses the carrier,

activating a local area computer to activate the device to instruct the operator to stop the carrier within the interrogation field.

121. (new)A method as set forth in claim 116 which includes:

providing an interrogation field having a triggering device that senses the carrier,

activating one of the local area computers and the host computer to activate the device to instruct the operator to stop the carrier within the interrogation field, and

activating one of the local area computers and the host computer to activate the device to instruct the operator to resume maneuvering the carrier through the interrogation field.

122. (new)A method of using a material handling apparatus comprising:

(a) affixing an RFID tag upon the apparatus for transmitting information pertaining to the apparatus,

(b) providing a plurality of interrogators capable of receiving information from the RFID tag with each of the interrogators being located in one of a plurality of interrogation fields located within a distribution network,

(c) providing a local area computer connected to each one of the interrogators within each interrogation field with the local area computers being connected to a host computer,

(d) providing a carrier to move the apparatus within the distribution network with the carrier including a visual message delivery device being wirelessly connected to at least one of the local area computers and the host computer,

(e) providing an operator to maneuver the carrier within the distribution network to observe the device,

(f) using the carrier to move the apparatus into one of the interrogation fields thereby allowing one of the interrogators to convey the information pertaining to the apparatus contained on the RFID tag to at least one of the local area computers and the host computer, and

(g) thereafter at least one of the local area computers and the host computer activating the device on the carrier observed by the operator to instruct the operator to maneuver the carrier and the apparatus out of one of the interrogation fields.

123. (new)A method as set forth in claim 122 which includes:

positioning an LED light on the console of the carrier so that the LED light is operable to instruct the operator to stop within and proceed through the interrogation field.

124. (new)A method as set forth in claim 122 which includes:

displaying where the operator is to store the apparatus within a warehouse.

125. (new)A method as set forth in claim 122 which includes:

providing the interrogation field with a triggering device that senses the carrier.

126. (new)A method as set forth in claim 122 which includes:

providing the interrogation field having a triggering device that detects the carrier, and

thereafter informing the local area computer that the triggering device detected the carrier.

127. (new)A method as set forth in claim 126 which includes:

activating the device to instruct the operator to stop or proceed through the interrogation field after the local area computer is informed that the triggering device detected the carrier.

128. (new)A method as set forth in claim 126 which includes:

activating the interrogator to receive information pertaining to the apparatus transmitted by the RFID tag after the local area computer is informed that the triggering device detected the carrier.